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Gateway

Volume 90 ■ Issue 24 ■ November 27, 1990

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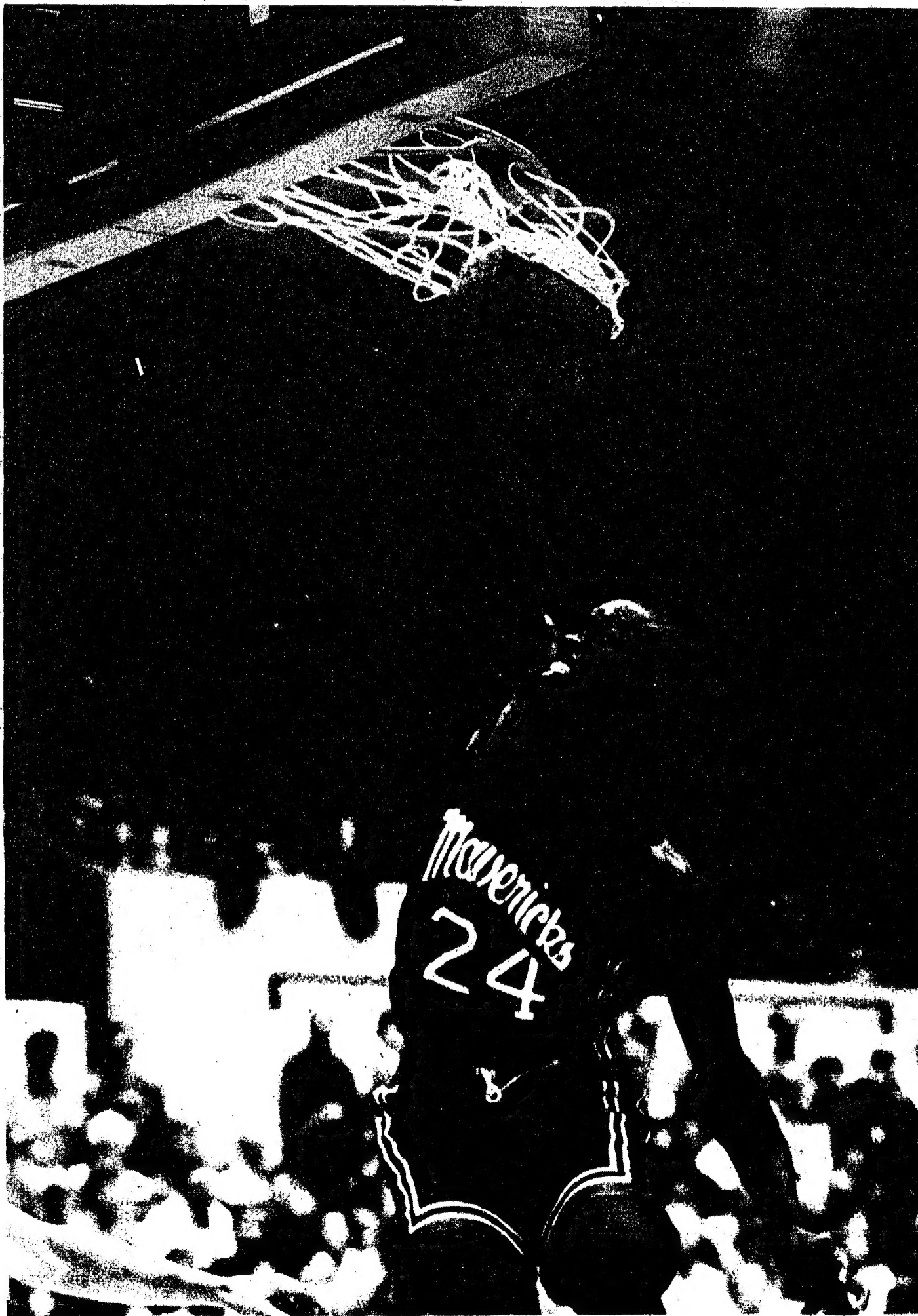
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UNO forward Troy Flowers authoritatively scores against Kearney State.

—DAVE BAVARICO

Mavericks nip Antelopes in basketball opener
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Massengale nominated as NU president

By HEIDI JEANNE HESS

After a six-month, nationwide search for a new University of Nebraska president, the NU Board of Regents voted five to three to nominate Interim President Martin Massengale for the position in a special session last Tuesday.

As of Sunday, Massengale had not officially accepted the nomination.

"I think that he (Massengale) has the capability of bringing the other campuses together as a complete unit," said Regent John Payne of Kearney, Neb., who nominated Massengale. "That's the way it has always been intended, but it has always been a very difficult job."

Regent Margaret Robinson of Norfolk, Neb., seconded the motion, adding that Massengale has the characteristics and ability to do the job well.

However, nominating Massengale caused controversy among the regents and the presidential search committee members.

The search committee released a list of four

possible candidates Nov. 9, and Massengale was not among the final four.

Regent Chairman Don Blank of McCook, Neb., voted against nominating Massengale, calling him a "default candidate." He said the regents violated the confidence of the search committee.

"I have the highest regard for Dr. Massengale. But the situation and circumstances at this particular time are not right for this individual to be the next president of the university," Blank said.

A presidential search always involves controversy, he said. However, Blank added that he does not think the regents have lost credibility or been embarrassed.

"I don't think it will hurt their credibility. They don't have any credibility," said State Sen. Ron Withem, chairman of the Legislature's Education Committee.

Regent Donald Fricke of Lincoln approved of the Massengale nomination.

"We need someone with immediate knowledge of what's going on in Nebraska," Fricke said.

Informally seconding the nomination, Regent Nancy Hoch of Nebraska City said she had received statewide support for Massengale and called the nomination a "great opportunity to go forward."

Regent Rosemary Skrupa of Omaha said she supported Massengale because she felt he would be fair to all of the campuses.

Yet Regent Kermit Hansen of Elkhorn, Neb., said, "Not only can the University do better, but they must do better."

In a second motion, Hansen proposed that NU Vice President and Provost Lee Jones be named president for no more than three years and that the search be re-opened in two years on the condition that Jones would not be an eligible

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News

Nuggets

UNO and local information

Two regents fan flames of Massengale controversy

NU Regent John Payne began last Tuesday's Board of Regents meeting by taking issue with comments made to him by fellow Regent Kermit Hansen.

"If I were the person that he (Hansen) just said I was, I probably would have gone along with the way the Roskens' situation was handled in 1989, July 31," Payne said, referring to the regents' removal of former NU President Ronald Roskens.

"Don't ever call me that again, OK?" Payne added.

Hansen made the comment before the meeting, and neither Payne nor Hansen would specify what was said.

Payne nominated NU Interim President Martin Massengale for president, while Hansen voted against the nomination. Later in the meeting, Hansen nominated NU Vice President and Provost Lee Jones for a three-year presidential term, on the condition that the presidential search be reopened in two years.

Payne's motion passed, while Hansen's failed.

"We would have been less than honest if we had not expressed ourselves tonight," said Regent Chairman Don Blank, who voted against the Massengale nomination and favored Hansen's motion.

Blank said controversy always surrounds a president search, and the best board is one with strong members.

Discussion series planned for UNO authors

United Christian Ministries has announced the first in a series of discussions with UNO faculty who are authors.

On Dec. 3, UNO history professor Jerold Simmons and Rev. Darrel Berg, UNO campus pastor, will discuss Simmons' book, "The Dame in the Kimono." The discussion is scheduled for noon in the Student Center Omaha room.

"The Dame in the Kimono" is about censorship in America and was co-authored with Leonard J. Leff. The discussion marks the first in a series featuring eight UNO faculty who have been published.

The series will resume Jan. 23, with Harl Dalstrom discussing his volume, "A.V. Sorenson and the New Omaha."

Now we're really in trouble

The UNO Student Publication Board has named the *Gateway* editor and advertising manager for the spring 1991 semester.

In a November meeting, the board appointed Greg Kozol, current *Gateway* editor, to another term. Shannan Johnson, current assistant advertising manager, was named advertising manager.

"I've got big shoes to fill next semester, but I'm confident with the staff I'll have," said Johnson.

"Ditto," Kozol said.



Ak-Sar-Ben at night... "It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," said UNO Chancellor Del Weber.

—ERIC FRANCIS

UNO explores option of buying Ak-Sar-Ben

By GREG KOZOL

Money, or lack of it, may sidetrack UNO's chance of purchasing Ak-Sar-Ben property for the purpose of building dorms, the chairman of the Legislature's Education Committee said.

"I can't imagine anyone thinking of it," said State Sen. Ron Withem. "I can't see it, if they are going to use taxpayer's money."

Last Tuesday, Ak-Sar-Ben officials said all of its 300 acres, including the race track and coliseum, were for sale. Ak-Sar-Ben officials said the property probably will be sold to a non-profit organization — UNO, Creighton University, Douglas County, the city of Omaha or the state of Nebraska.

Ak-Sar-Ben officials have not said how much the property will cost, but a letter detailing the offer will be sent to those five agencies

this week.

Chancellor Del Weber said UNO is merely exploring the idea of meeting its expansion needs with Ak-Sar-Ben property.

"The point is, there has been no planning or decision (to purchase Ak-Sar-Ben property)," Weber said. "But it's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."

UNO has limited space and will need to expand if the University of Nebraska Board of Regents lets UNO begin planning for dorms, Weber said.

However, two regents agreed with Withem, saying money remains the main obstacle to UNO purchasing Ak-Sar-Ben property.

"I don't think we could afford the asking price," Regent Rosemary Skrupa of Omaha said. "And I don't think we could get support from a majority of regents."

Skrupa said the possibility of a joint venture between UNO and another agency would increase UNO's chances of expanding to Ak-Sar-Ben.

"I would want to talk to (Douglas County Chairman) Mike Albert about that," she said.

Another option for UNO, Skrupa said, would be for Ak-Sar-Ben to donate part of the land to UNO. "Generally, I would be in favor of purchasing, or being given, a parcel of land. A donation of some acres of land would be marvelous," Skrupa said.

Regent Chairman Don Blank of McCook, Neb., agreed money will be the main obstacle for UNO.

"Money is going to be very tight. There is going to be a certain amount of caution," Blank said. "But I want to keep my options open. It's something we should look at."

Space exploration to be taught this spring

By MARGARET OLDHAM

Choose a topic that is "out of this world," blend in four natural science instructors, mix in some students and place them in a classroom; this is the formula for a new natural science course to debut at UNO this spring semester.

This course, called "The Science of Space Exploration: The Final Frontier," will be taught jointly by biology professor Robert Egan, physics professor John Kasher, geography/geology associate professor Jeffrey Peake and chemistry associate professor George Pfeffer.

Pfeffer said UNO's new general education requirements — which insist most undergraduates enroll in natural sciences courses — instigated this five-credit science course.

He said this course will allow students to get the bulk of their science requirements out of the way.

"It provides a different mechanism for satisfying that core requirement," Pfeffer said.

Students will explore several different scientific fields within a single course, Kasher said.

"The multi-disciplinary aspect is attractive

— you wouldn't get that by just taking a single science course," Kasher said.

This course evolved from a three-credit course called "Philosophy of Space Exploration," previously offered by the physics and philosophy departments, Kasher said. Although the course was well received by students, he said the new one was enhanced by specialized instructors teaching about each different scientific field.

Students will realize the different scientific

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Schools consider arming campus police

(CPS) - Should campus security officers be allowed to carry guns?

More and more schools are debating this question in the wake of increased college crimes nationwide.

Campus police at numerous colleges have faced arsons, riots, murders, assaults and other serious crimes, most notably the unsolved murders of five Gainesville, Fla. students late August.

Therefore, many college administrators believe campus police should be armed for better protection.

"We have an arsenal here of arms confiscated from campus criminals," said John Carpenter, public safety officer at San Diego State University. "It's really frustrating for college police who don't have the power to arrest criminals or carry a gun, yet still must confront serious crimes on campus."

"Letting campus police carry guns is a logical step to provide better service," added John McGinnis, head of security at Marquette University in Milwaukee, whose unarmed officers want to be commissioned by the state and thus qualified to carry guns.

Other schools, including the University of Michigan, Millersville University of Pennsylvania, Mesa State College and the State University of New York system have also considered whether to commission their officers and allow them to carry guns this year.

Reaction from students has been mixed.



Campus security at Millersville University performing a more traditional function.

"It's good they are carrying guns. It makes the students feel safer," said Amy Nida, a student at Oakland University in Michigan, where police have carried guns for 20 years.

"A student asked, 'how can you protect us when you can't even protect yourselves?'" said Millersville police director Wayne Silcox.

Nevertheless, about 49 percent of the stu-

dents at Millersville said they opposed a campus police proposal to carry guns, saying there aren't enough serious crimes to warrant firearms and voicing worries that guns could lead to tragic accidents.

In September, 250 students at the University of Michigan protested the school's decision to arm its police officers.

Stanford University band gets banned

(CPS) - Stanford University's marching band recently achieved something 2 Live Crew couldn't - it was banned.

The college band, famous for incorporating outrageous satire into its halftime performances, was forced to sit out the school's Nov. 3 football game against Washington State University as punishment for spoofing the controversy over environmental threats to the spotted owl in Oregon.

At Stanford's Oct. 27 game against the University of Oregon, the band illustrated a series of macabre jokes about the owl, whose habitat is being threatened by the timber industry.

Many Oregon and Stanford fans didn't appreciate the jokes and booed the band off the field.

Later, the school's athletic department was flooded with calls protesting the performance.

The department responded by banning the band from the Nov. 3 game and requiring it to audition its routines for future games.

"What we do is political satire," said band manager Linda Kaye Brown. "We are certainly sorry that some people misinterpreted it. It wasn't an attempt to mock them (Oregonians) or their way of life."

The band's Oct. 27 routine began by forming an owl's head, and changing the eyes to X's.

Band members then formed the word "OWL", changed it to "AWOL", switched the formation to create "HOOT", then "MOOT", then "SPOT" and finally, "POT." The accompanying narration suggested at one point that some of the protesters wanted to prevent deforestation of the owls' habitat only because the trees provided a good hiding place for marijuana crops.

"The band is controversial, so we always have fans who really like them and some who don't like their performances. But this one reached a point where we needed to act," said Cheryl Levick, associate athletic director at Stanford.

However, not everyone at the game took offense.

"A lot of students thought it was funny," said Sheila Stickel, a student at the University of Oregon. "It was an interesting spoof that no one would dare do in town. I was surprised that people were booing."

Stanford's band has a long history of controversy. In 1986, six members were suspended when they dropped their pants during a nationally televised game.

College Clips

Briefs from around the country

Expelled athlete charges school with racism

University of New Hampshire (UNH) basketball player Antonio Steadman accused school officials of racism Nov. 7 after being expelled when found guilty of beating and sexually assaulting a UNH woman in his dorm room.

John E. Lyons Jr., Steadman's attorney, said the assault never took place, UNH's Conduct Board ignored evidence clearing Steadman and officials were prone to punish Steadman because he is black and the woman is white.

"I find it extremely unfortunate that the case is being portrayed in that light," replied Barbara Bruegemann, UNH's assistant dean for student affairs.

Vandals try to halt building

"Leave the area green!"

This message, spray painted on a construction trailer on the Pennsylvania State University campus, voices sentiments felt by campus protesters.

The message was just one of many recent vandalism incidents as the school prepares to build a classroom building on a recreation field.

Project director Don Hale said vandals have also damaged construction equipment, cut down fences, poured dirt into workers' vehicles and severed wires and extension cords.

He believes students opposing the new building are responsible for the vandalism.

Fewer companies are leaving South Africa

Only seven U.S. companies have left South Africa as a protest against apartheid so far in 1990, according to the Investor Responsibility Research Center.

This number is down from 24 companies that left in 1989 and a record 40 that left in 1987, the Center said in a statement Nov. 6.

Meanwhile, the University of Nebraska Foundation, which has refused to divest from South Africa, may soon reconsider its policy, NU Associate Vice President for Administration James Van Horn told an apartheid awareness panel.

The University of Nebraska Foundation is separate from the University of Nebraska system, which has already divested from South Africa.

Pell Grants a casualty of recent budget battle

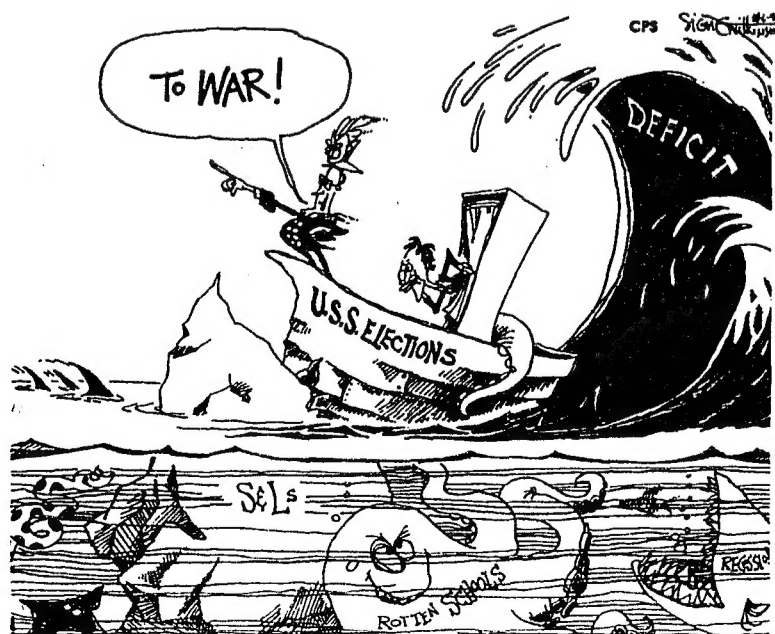
A possible \$145 million shortfall in funding may cause students to compete for fewer and smaller Pell Grants.

The shortfall, confirmed by the U.S. Department of Education, would come as a result of a last-minute funding cut made in the 1991-92 federal budget negotiations.

Congress cut 2.41 percent from the initial appropriation of \$5.3 billion for new grants.

An education department official, who did not want to be named, said about 71,000 students would have their grants cut by \$225 each. Another 1.22 million grants would be cut by \$100.

CPS Cartoon Commentary



Losing loans

(CPS) - About 300,000 college and trade school students nationwide could lose federal student loans next school year under the new budget plan, according to an education lobbyist.

"It's going to have a substantial impact upon poor folks," said Stephen Blair of the National Association of Trade and Technical Schools.

The five-year, \$490 billion deficit reduction package, passed by Congress on Oct. 27, slices some \$1.7 billion out of the most popular federal student loan program by creating rigid restrictions on schools whose students have high loan default rates.

About 50,000 of the students attend community and four-year schools that have default rates of about 35 percent, which disqualifies them from getting more loans.

The rest of the disqualified students go to technical and trade schools which were criticized in September congressional hearings for unscrupulously arranging loans for students.

"You're not looking at a huge number of schools," said Pat Smith of the American Council on Education, who noted only 100 of the nation's 3,500 community and four-year schools will be affected.

opinion

The smell of a smoky room

After more than one year, it's almost over. The University of Nebraska Board of Regents finally has decided on a permanent NU president.

Assuming he accepts the regents' offer, which he most likely will, Martin Massengale will take the permanent position, perhaps as soon as December.

Looking back on the regents' handling of this presidential soap opera, it's quite easy to find fault.

Staff editorial

Our view

● First of all, the regents' 1989 removal of former NU President Ronald Roskens was hardly justified. With Roskens and the regents hiding behind closed doors throughout the affair, one can only speculate as to why Roskens was removed.

Maybe it was personal animosity between Roskens and the regents. Maybe someone saw an opportunity to get Massengale's foot in the door. Neither reason merits an excuse to fire Roskens.

● Second, the price tag of this whole fiasco comes to \$250,000. That's how much it cost to buy out Roskens's contract, pay Massengale a monthly stipend for serving as interim president, and hire a consulting team to assist the NU Presidential Search Committee.

All in all, \$250,000 is a lot of money for taxpayers to fork over — especially when the regents won't give us answers. Also, the consulting firm failed to discover that one finalist for the position was censured by the American Association of University Professors — information that caused that finalist to withdraw his



name from consideration by the regents.

● But worst of all, Massengale was not selected as one of four finalists by the search committee. Assuming the search committee did what it was supposed to do, which was to pick the four best candidates for the regents to pick from, we have to figure the regents settled for fifth best candidate.

● In the end, it's not that we're writhing in agony over the selection of Massengale. He will do a very good job.

For example, while serving as interim president, he showed that he can put inter-campus rivalries aside when he helped pave the way for doctoral programs at UNO.

No, Massengale is not the problem. In fact, it's time for the soon-to-be four NU campuses to unite and work with him.

The problem is that the whole scenario, from the removal of Roskens to the regents' decision to consider Massengale, was shrouded in secrecy.

The problem is that the new president has to start his tenure amidst the stench of done deals and inter-regent politics.

The problem is that the regents, Massengale, and the entire NU system have lost credibility during this debacle.

Hubby not quite in the spirit of the season

My idea of decorating the house for Christmas is to light up the rooftop with bright strings of bulbs, drape garlands of greenery from pillar to post, entwine small white lights throughout the otherwise bare maple trees, garnish the garage door with a life-sized Santa Claus, and perch a small elf on the mailbox that says "Happy Holidays" where his teeth should be.

My husband's idea of holiday decorating is to replace the forty watt bulb in the porch light with a sixty watt bulb. He accuses me of overdoing it. I tell him I am simply exercising my artistic abilities. He says, "OK, but don't involve me this year in your Disneyland extravaganzas."

Seeing that I am obviously dismayed at his lack of yuletide cheer, he relinquishes his warm, cushioned spot in front of the fireplace and grudgingly agrees to help with the count-

Jennifer Malone

Columnist

less strings of lights. He says he first needs to make a sketch of the tree and mathematically calculate how many blue, gold and red bulbs it will take to make it look right. I just stare dumbfounded at him in complete disbelief. It never ceases to amaze me how even at this time of the year, he can be so analytical and precise.

I carry on steadfast in my little project finding it extremely hard not to grit my teeth while I'm trying to hum Christmas carols and finding it almost impossible to believe that no one has ever told my spouse that he's about as much fun as a fever blister under the mistletoe.

You think I would have learned by now not to expect a great deal of creativity from a husband who's idea of a great gift for his wife is a plunger. Most husbands get caught up in a sea of confusion over sniffing perfumes and fingering silky or sequined things. No matter how decoratively you camouflage it with pretty wrapping paper and bows, a plunger is still a plunger, even if it is supposed to be the latest and greatest that hi-tech plumbing has to offer and comes in several assorted decorator colors. I'd say a plunger rates right up there with the sandwich grill he gave me for last Christmas and is probably buried somewhere in the kitchen along with my new and improved revolutionary salad washer from the Christmas before that.

I've tried telling him that happiness is an immoral nightgown but I think maybe this year Mrs. Claus will have to give Mr. Claus a year's subscription to Fredrick's of Hollywood.

Sarah Smock

Columnist

I don't

I like football.

That may not seem like earth-shattering news to some people, but apparently some men have a hard time comprehending the fact that some women truly enjoy watching a good game of football.

I never realized how true this was until last Monday night. I was attending a concert and trying to keep an eye on the television set to see how the contest between the Raiders and Dolphins was going. This seemed like a perfectly natural thing to do to me, but for the man standing next to me, I guess it wasn't.

Prior to Monday night, no one had ever proposed marriage to me, but this guy put his arm around me and said "Marry me," when he found out I was a football fan.

I wasn't always a football fan. In fact, I went through a stage where I hated all sports — just to spite my parents, I think. It appears to me that most girls are socialized not to really enjoy watching sports, football in particular. But in my house, both the mother and the father were sports fans.

When they talked about having children, my parents decided they would like to have boys.

Imagine their surprise when my mother gave birth to probably one of the prissiest children to date. Throughout my childhood, I never showed the slightest bit of athletic ability or interest.

My parents decided to try having another child in hopes of producing a boy. Unfortunately, they were again unsuccessful. This time though, they chose an androgynous name, in hopes of producing at least a tomboy.

My sister didn't disappoint them. For the first few years of her life, Terri couldn't seem to grow any hair, so people naturally assumed she was a boy.

Luckily for them, my sister grew up a certified tomboy. She did all the boy things like playing football and collecting frogs. Meanwhile, I was spending time at a friend's house playing with Barbies and pretending we were dating Shaun Cassidy (he was mine) or Leif Garrett.

Eventually my sister became an excellent swimmer who had relatives clamoring to go to her meets. Meanwhile, I was struggling through dance lessons, which resulted in recitals no one clamored to see (they were pretty boring).

Terri finally discovered boys, and swimming took a back seat. About that time was when I realized that sports could be enjoyed even by those who thought they were intellectually above grunting, spitting and tackling.

Therefore, I have come to appreciate the ability it takes to participate in and win an athletic contest. And, more importantly, I discovered that I could be sexy, smart and a football fan.

Now if I could just convince some men to give the arts more of a chance, I could someday put my arm around some guy looking at a Monet and say "Marry me."

Gateway

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The Gateway is published by the University of Nebraska at Omaha Student Publications Committee on Tuesdays and Fridays during the spring and fall semesters and on Fridays during the summer.

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the University of Nebraska at Omaha or the NU Board of Regents. Opinions in signed columns, letters to the editor or paid advertisements do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Gateway staff or the Publications Committee.

Inquiries or complaints should be directed to the editor; advertising inquiries should be directed to the advertising manager. Copies of the Student Publications

Committee inquiry/complaint policy are available in the Gateway office.

The Gateway is funded as follows: 70 percent advertising revenue, 30 percent student fees allocated by Student Government. Typesetting and makeup by the Gateway.

Address: Gateway, Annex 26, UNO, Omaha, NE, 68182. Telephone: (402) 554-2470.

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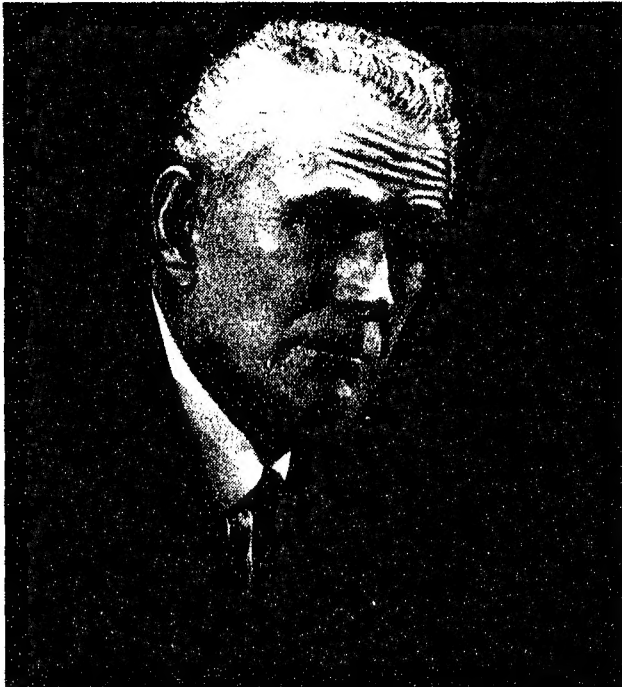
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Letters must be signed using the first and last name or initials and the last name. Letters must include the writer's address and phone number although this information will not be published. Letters to the editor exceeding two typed pages will not be considered for publication.

The Gateway-
Peace, dude

Controversy surrounds Massengale nomination

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2



Regent Robert Allen ... voted against the nomination of Massengale

nominee.
Hansen's motion was seconded by Regent Robert Allen of Hastings and defeated by a three to five vote.
Some believe that the regents railroaded Massengale into the presidency.
"I don't think in any way, shape or form this was a done deal," Blank said of the allegations.
Student President/Regents Kelli Sears of UNO and Mark Meyer of the University of Nebraska Medical Center, voiced their opposition to Massengale. However, UNL Student President/Regent Phil Gosch supported the motion.
Payne, Robinson, Fricke, Skrupa and Hoch voted for hiring Massengale, while Blank, Allen, and Hansen opposed the hiring.
Although Blank would not comment on when Massengale's contract negotiations would be complete, he said he would be surprised if they were completed this week.
Although the split among regents was distinct, Blank said, "(The) board is as cohesive as any board I've been on."

"I don't think in any way, shape or form this was a done deal."
- Don Blank
regent chairman



Regent John Payne ... voted for Massengale's nomination.

Interdisciplinary exploration course to appeal to many

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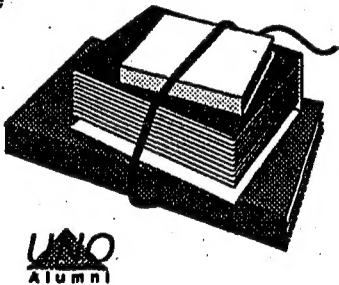
disciplines work in a very similar manner, Egan said.
"They interact like a puzzle, and you need all four pieces to put the puzzle together," Egan said.
The subject of space affords a good opportunity to mix chemistry, geology, physics, and biology together, Kasher said.
"It's just a perfect vehicle. There's so much science involved in space," he continued. "There's just kind of a magic about space that people are naturally interested in. The space program, whether we realize it or not, just permeates our lives."

The course will include discussion about living in space and on another planets.
"Obviously, a lot of it is going to be astronomy and planetary physics," Egan said. "But in the biology realm we're going to talk primarily about space colonies, the idea of contained ecosystems and long-term space travel."
The existence of other life forms in the universe will be discussed during the final week of the course, Kasher said.
"We'll take the traditional approach, talking about the astronomy and the odds of there being life on other planets and the large radio telescopes that we have listening for signals," Kasher

said.
"That's a very conservative, moderate approach which I think needs to be balanced by a genuine talk about UFOs (Unidentified Flying Objects)," Kasher said. "At least from my perspective, I'll say they're already here."
If the course is successful, another five-credit course, perhaps with a different topic, might be offered in the future, Kasher said.
Enrollment for "The Science of Space Exploration" is limited to 26 students.

Thanks to all UNO graduates who pledged to the 1990 class gift

Each semester, graduating seniors pledge thousands in dollars to the University Library. The money, which may be designated to a specific field of study, is used to purchase books. Donors may have their names inscribed on a plate which is then placed inside a book.



The UNO Alumni Association would like to recognize the following August graduates who pledged \$5,600 to help the University Library:

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OK, we goofed. The *Gateway's* parody issue, the *Lateway*, will be printed and available to you on December 11, instead of the December 4. Sorry folks, you have to wait a week. (It's Greg's fault.)

POOR STUDENT PACKAGE

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NAME OF NOMINEE _____
RANK _____ DEPARTMENT _____
Your Name, Class, and Major _____

Please indicate your relation to the nominee (e.g., student in classes, seminars or other form of instruction; advisee, colleague, etc.): _____

List on a separate sheet of paper your reasons for nominating the above-named individual. Include information on the nominee's teaching style, effectiveness, and the innovative, creative techniques used.

Send Nominations to Dr. Pamela Specht, CBA 414, by Dec. 3, 1990.

TO BOLDLY GO WHERE NO

Mars is one step in humanity's

By PATRICK RUNGE

July 24, 2018, Utopia, Mars - Today the space shuttle Excalibur delivered the first inhabitants of the United Nations Mars Colony. The 300 scientists and their families, chosen from 85 nations, will live permanently on the surface of Mars.

The scientists will be engaging in research to transform Mars into a habitable planet to relieve pressures of overpopulation. Estimates put the Earth's population at 20 trillion people by the end of the decade.

"Today humanity steps out of the cradle and takes its place among the stars," said President Kozol in an address to the United Nations.

The above story is fictional (especially the presidential part) but demonstrates what some believe to be the great potential of exploring Mars.

"If we ever send exploration teams up to Mars, chances are good they would find numerous elements needed to support life," said Robert Schmidt, UNO associate professor of physics.

One element not in short supply on Mars would be iron, Schmidt said.

"The reason Mars is red is because of plain old rust," he said. "There is a huge amount of iron on Mars. If man should ever land there, he could make his own steel."

Schmidt said the conditions on Mars are too harsh to support life, however.

"The air pressure is so low that water would boil, even at freezing temperatures," he said.

The atmosphere also would disagree with humans, Schmidt said.

"The atmosphere is made up of carbon dioxide, and there isn't enough of it," he said.

According to Schmidt, one of the keys to humans colonizing Mars may be volcanos.

"We have a very good idea that the planet is probably geologically dead at the surface, but it has the largest volcanos in the solar system," Schmidt said.

"Volcanos are the prime means of renewing an atmosphere," he said. "The Martian atmosphere is slowly being frittered away and not being renewed."

However, Schmidt said Mars has possibilities for humans. "It is a potential place where humans could live and make things livable," he said.

The Observer mission to Mars, scheduled for August 1992, will add to the information about the Red Planet.

"The mission of Observer is to map the surface of Mars," said Harry Jordan, director of the Mars Project in Omaha. "It will assume a polar orbit and take pictures of Mars as it rotates underneath it."

Observer will be equipped with state-of-the-art recording equipment to accomplish its mission, according to Jordan.

"It will have a sophisticated probe and a 10 camera array," he said. "It will be able to spot things the size of a card table on the surface of Mars."

According to Jordan, the improved technology means Observer should be able to bring back more information than earlier missions to Mars, including the Mariner and Viking projects.

"The increased resolution means that it will take thousands of Observer photographs to make up the space of one Viking photograph," he said.

One problem Observer could face is interference in transmitting its signals back to Earth from the Sun. Jordan said high solar

activity can cause "whiteouts" in images sent back from the satellite.

"The white spots in the pictures from Viking that the New Age and UFO people put forward as flying saucers are actually whiteouts due to solar interference," Jordan said.

Jordan said the Observer mission to Mars could also offer evidence that there was life on Mars at one time.

"There are surface features on Mars inconsistent with what would happen naturally through such incidents as geothermal uplifts, impacts, and mudslides," Jordan said. "There are hardened surface features made up in such a way that is not natural. I submit that they are architectural in nature."

Schmidt said what some people believe to be constructions may be natural phenomenon, however.

"Some individuals think they have detected a sculpture of a gigantic face looking upward," he said. "But most astronomers think it is natural."

"It is exciting to think it could be a statue, but I tend to side with the people who say it is natural," Schmidt said.

According to Jordan, Mars may be a preview for what could happen to the Earth.

"Something drastic happened a half a million years ago on the surface of Mars. The planet was decimated," he said. "I think it was some kind of intelligent action. And we are well on our way to that happening on Earth."

"It has been said that Saturn just burped. Well, the Earth is about to vomit," he said. "It's time for people to stop partying and take a serious look at the consequences of their actions."

Observer will not be the first Earth satellite to study Mars. The first was Mariner 4, which sent back pictures of Mars in 1965. However, Jordan said the series of nine Mariner voyages was a "spearhead" for the Viking missions.

"Mariner 9 had one-one hundredth the camera resolution that Viking had, although it did bring back some impressive data,

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including some striking photos of a Martian sandstorm," he said.

Viking 1 and 2 orbited Mars for two years, sending the first photos back to Earth on July 20, 1976. Jordan said Viking 1 and 2 took over 66,000 pictures during their two-year study.

Viking 1 also had a remote lander, which set down in the Utopia region of Mars.

"The lander had a small lab designed to ascertain, through chemical reaction and remote sensing, if there ever was any life on Mars," Jordan said.

According to Schmidt, the tests were "largely negative, although they didn't disprove anything."

Schmidt said there probably was water at one time on Mars. "There were ancient rivers here and there, and various other flow signs," he said.

The United States is not the only country that has explored Mars.

"The Soviet Union has had about three times more missions to Mars than the United States did during the Mariner program," Jordan said. "They weren't as successful, however, because their optics weren't as sophisticated as Mariner's."

Last August, an expedition to Mars sponsored by the United States and the Soviet Union arrived at Mars. Two satellites, Phobos and Deimos, were to orbit Mars and gather information. However, the mission failed.

"Within a few days of their arrival, their telemetry was set to take a different attitude," Jordan said. "They turned their solar cells away from the sun, effectively committing suicide."

Jordan said the failure seemed suspicious.

"I can accept it (the telemetry change) happening once, but not twice," he said. "It was our guys who shared the programming and orbital commands with the Soviets."

"I think the Soviets were going there to find if rumors about the artifacts on Mars were true, and then take credit for discovering them."

Schmidt said the high costs of a manned expedition may make unmanned expeditions a better value.

"A major concern would be the safety of the crew, which



The Valles Marineris canyon on Mars, whose length is comparable to the entire United States. The photo is a composite image from the Viking mission to Mars.

would have to spend more time in space than anyone ever has," he said. "And the effects are not all benign."

Schmidt said it may be more prudent to establish a lunar observatory.

"It would be hard to find a better place to put an observatory than the moon, since there is no atmosphere," he said.

A lunar observatory could also be used as a staging ground for a manned Martian expedition, Schmidt said, due to the moon's lower gravity.

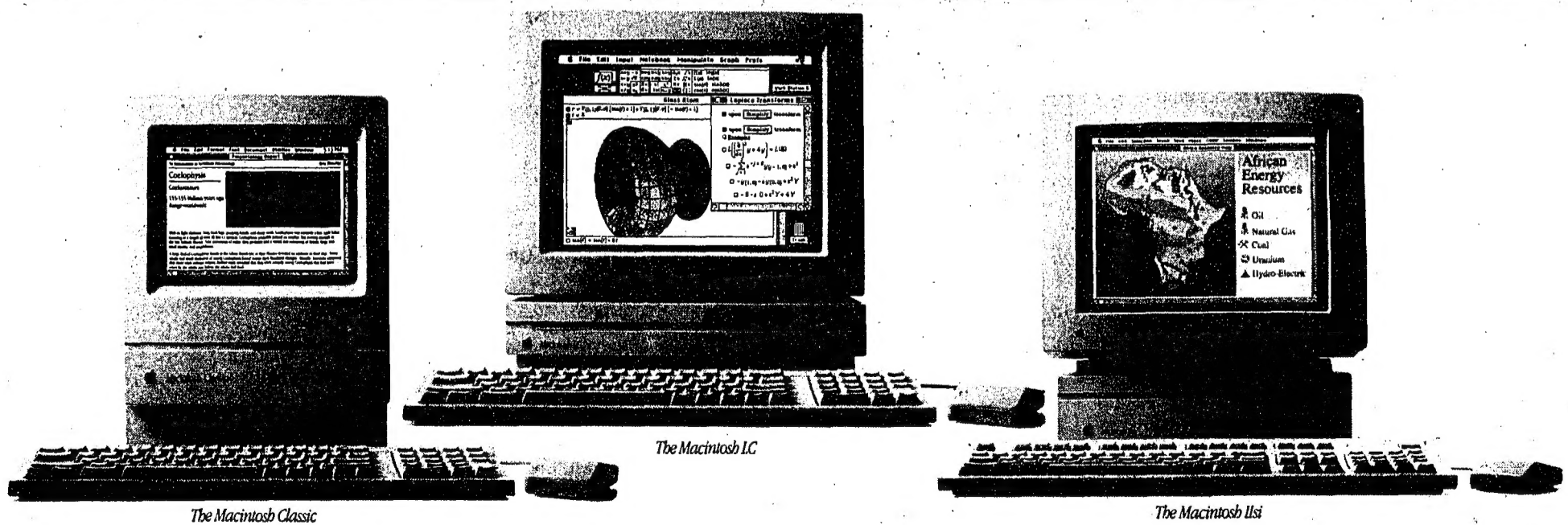
But Schmidt does not rule out a manned expedition to Mars.

"I look for a manned mission to Mars in the second decade of the next century," he said.

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Endurance, shoes needed for 'Ultimate' frisbee game

By GARY PETERSON

Ultimate, a football/soccer/basketball hybrid played with a frisbee, is something you need to be see to believe, said Martin Williams, assistant director of Campus Recreation.

Sporting a 20-year history, Ultimate has come to the Midwest after becoming popular on both coasts, said John Donovan, Ultimate club president.

At UNO, the game is still in its infancy. The Ultimate club has existed for only "a couple of months," Donovan said.

However, his hopes run high. After getting the men's club off the ground, he said he plans to establish a women's club.

Donovan said new players are always welcome; 16 of the club's 20 members are new.

"We teach the skills. All you need is endurance," he said of the exhausting games.

The games are generally played to a total of 15 points. A point is scored each time a team successfully completes a frisbee toss into the end zone, Donovan said.

Once a team has kicked off, or "pulled" in Ultimate lingo, the receiving team advances the frisbee down the field by continuously passing and catching.

Running is prohibited, and players are allowed to touch the ground twice after catching the frisbee before they must throw to a teammate. If a pass is not caught, the opposing team begins advancing the frisbee towards its goal.

Here is where the endurance comes in—no substitute players are allowed in the game until a score is made or an injury has been sustained, Donovan said.

The Ultimate playing field is similar to a football field. Each endzone is 25 yards deep, leaving a 70-yard-long field of play. Donovan said Ultimate is an inexpensive sport, "all you need

are good shoes and a fribee."

UNO's club, which he said is rated as class B, belongs to the Ultimate Players Association (UPA), which is 4,000 teams strong, he said.

The UPA sponsors an international tournament every year. By virtue of victories, a team advances from sectional contests to regional events to national events and finally to international levels of competition, Donovan explained.

This year's championship, held in Oslo, Norway, was won by a team from New York.

They have played against clubs from throughout the Midwest, as well as regional universities like Missouri, Kansas State and Oklahoma, he said.

While there are set rules guiding Ultimate play, games are officiated by the players. "It's called 'spirit of the game,'" Donovan said.



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UNO hands Kearney State 87-78 defeat

By DAVE DUFEEK

The UNO mens' basketball team started the season on the right foot Nov. 16 with a 87-78 victory over Kearney State College.

The win at Kearney puts the Mavericks basketball season at 1-0.

"They (Kearney State) did the same things to us they usually do," Coach Bob Hanson said. "We just played good defense. We handled their press really well."

Despite the final score, the Mavericks took only 53 shots, compared to the Lopers' 87.

"They only shot 33 percent from the field," Hanson said.

The Mavericks had four players in double digits. Senior forward Thor Palamore led the team with 24 points. Junior guard Trent Neal contributed 19, junior center Phil Cartwright added 14 and sophomore guard Terry Henderson had 13.

"They were happy — they played to their expectations," Hanson said.

Hanson sees some room for improvement after the win.

"We need to work on rebounding and checking off," Hanson said. "And we had a lot of turnovers — way too many travels."

Tonight, the Mavericks, ranked 13th in NCAA Division II, will square off against Nebraska Wesleyan College, 13th-ranked in NCAA Division III.

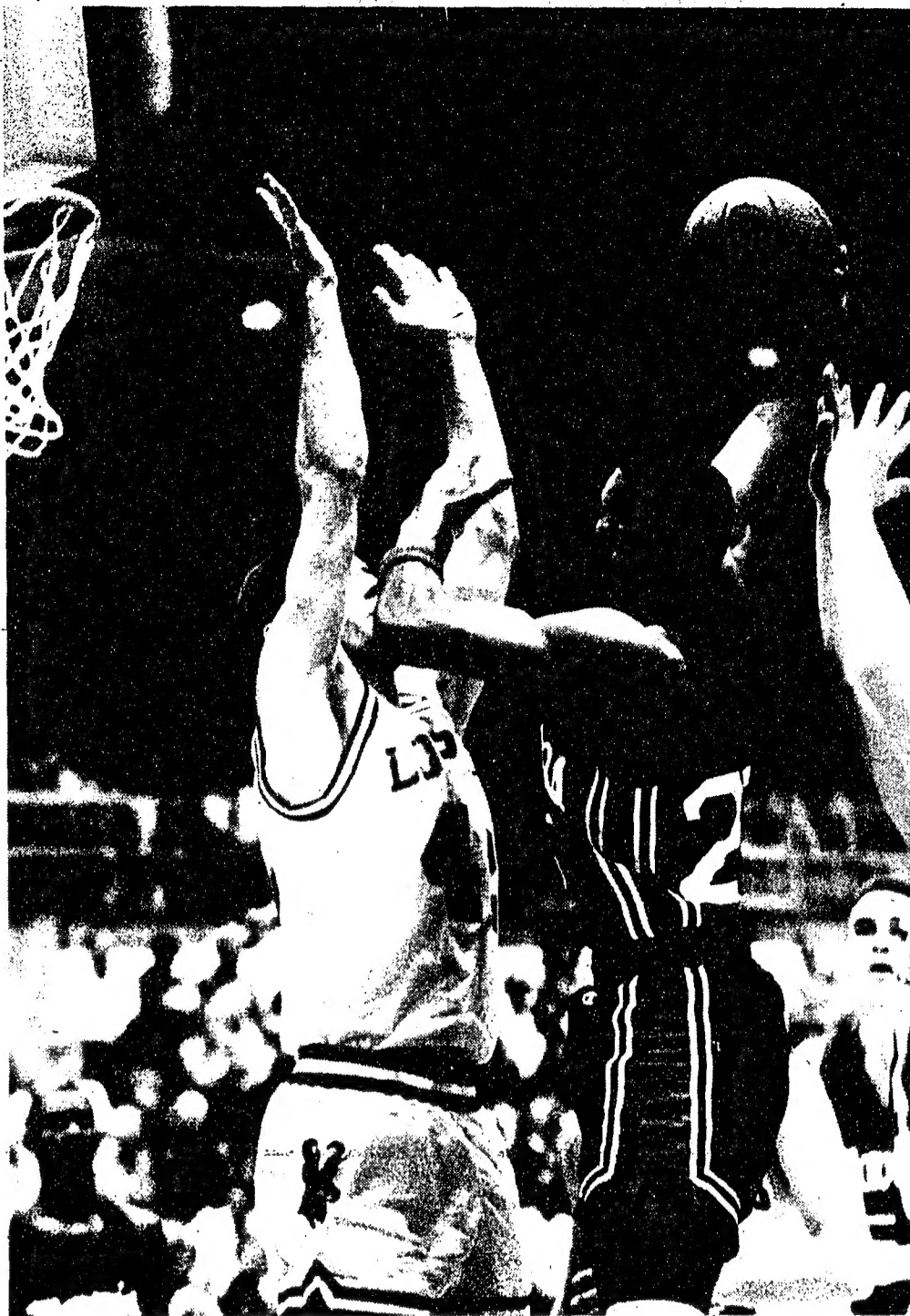
The Plainsmen have a 4-0 record on the season after victories over Hastings, Doane, Bethany and Bellevue Colleges. Wesleyan was 22-7 and qualified for the NCAA Division III playoffs for its seventh straight season last year.

Wesleyan leads the all-time series with the Mavericks 20-16. This is the first meeting in the series since 1985, when the Mavericks won 68-66.

"They're a good team," Hanson said. "They have very good talent."

A few players Hanson and the Mavs will concentrate on in tonight's game are Kirk Penner and Lance Anderson.

"Penner is averaging somewhere around 28 points per game," Hanson said. "And Anderson is an outstanding shooter. We're going to have to play good defense and rebound. And we'll have to contain Penner and Anderson."



— DAVE BAVARESCO

A UNO cager puts a shot over the head of an Antelope defender. UNO took only 53 shots, compared to Kearney State's 87.

Lady Mavs come up short three times

By DAVE DUFEEK

The Lady Maverick basketball team is about 15 minutes away from a 4-0 season.

UNO dropped three straight games in the University of California-Davis basketball tournament this weekend. The Lady Mavs led all three contests with five minutes left to play.

"It's been a really tough trip for us," Coach Cherri Mankenberg said. "We're getting out of our rhythm in the last five to six minutes of the game. We're talking about taking your heart and jerking it right out of your chest."

"Defensively, we're holding these teams," she continued. "We have to get our offensive attack going. And we have to learn to do it for 40 minutes, not 35."

The Lady Mavs' lost the first game of the tournament 59-58 to Cal-Davis. UNO led the tournament 33-23 at halftime and held a 16-point lead with just seven minutes remaining in the game. With six seconds left on the clock, Cal-Davis made a shot to go to a 2-point lead. UNO got the ball out-of-bounds with five seconds remaining, but failed to convert the chance into points.

"Davis was a good team," Mankenberg said. "But we needed to bury them at that time. We played like we were scared to lose, instead of concentrating on finishing the game."

The next contest pitted the Lady Mavs against the University of California-Poly San Obispo.

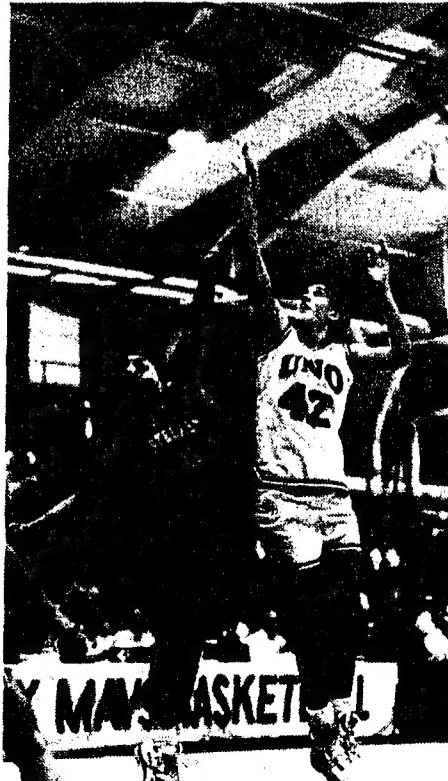
UNO had built up a 35-28 halftime lead and

a 58-43 lead with five minutes to go.

"They became the aggressors (in the final five minutes)," Mankenberg said. "It was like an instant replay. It was horrible."

The Lady Mavs were down by three with three seconds remaining in the game.

"We had the ball and we were making a



— ERIC FRANCIS

A Lady Mav puts up a shot.

drive to the basket," Mankenberg said. "She (the ball handler) was literally pushed out of bounds. The official said it was their (Cal-Poly's) ball."

"I made a statement saying I disagreed. The official called a technical foul on us."

After Cal-Poly's free throws on the technical, the final score was Cal-Poly 64, UNO 59.

"We were shocked again at the end of this game," Mankenberg said. "Once again we weren't taking good care of the ball."

"The Cal-Davis coach stepped into our locker room to tell our players there's no way we shouldn't have been 2-0," she continued. "The coach said not to be timid going into the final minutes with a lead."

UNO closed out the tournament against Air Force. The game was tied 27-27 at the half and 60-60 after regulation play.

"We couldn't get anything to drop in overtime," Mankenberg said. "We had a lot of chances, but we just couldn't hit anything."

Air Force went on to win in overtime, 62-60.

UNO is 1-3 on the season after the weekend losses. Earlier in the season, UNO defeated Northeast Missouri 90-79.

"We wanted to bring home some wins," Mankenberg said. "We've got to fight harder to get back on track. One weekend doesn't make a season."

Aimee Noel was named to the All-Tournament team for the Mavericks.

UNO will host Regis College Saturday at 7:30 p.m.

Jock Journal

by Dave Dufek

Dave 'Speed Demon' Dufek

I have to blame it on the Indianapolis 500.

Auto racing was a bad influence for me. The races shown early Sunday afternoons on the networks did something to alter my strict upbringing.

I had to try it, you understand.

So over Thanksgiving break, while going home about 2 a.m., Center Street turned into Daytona Speedway for me.

The engine whined as I nestled my foot to the floorboard. Two tons of red metal hurtled through the night at 35, 40, 45 mph.

I smirked as I hit 52 mph. I was ready to go for more.

Rebel.

That's when the red lights flashing in my rearview mirror reminded me I lived in the real world.

"Do you know how fast you were going?"

"Ummmm. 38?"

"No. I clocked you at 52. And this is a 40 mph zone."

"But everybody was passing me."

"Shut up and give me your license and registration."

I hate that. Why do the Mario Andretti's and the Al Unser, Jr.'s of the world get to go so fast while the rest of us live our lives at 35?

For once, I'd just like to see these guys race the Indy 500 with a catch. There would be cop cars randomly placed about the track.

"Do you know how fast you were going?"

"Ummmm. 192?"

"No. I clocked you at 207. And this is a 200 mph zone."

"But everybody was passing me."

"Shut up and give me your license and registration."

Or better yet, make the racers obey the common speed limit of 35 miles per hour as well as all other traffic laws. The biggest challenge then would be staying awake.

"We're here in Indianapolis bringing you the excitement (yawn) of the Indy 500, now in its ninth hour of racing action."

"Emerson Fittipaldi is pulling ahead of Rick Mears in this... WAIT! The officials are waving the yellow flag. Fittipaldi will have to pull his car off of the field because he failed to signal his lane change."

If it weren't for these auto racers, I wouldn't have had the urge to speed over Thanksgiving break. Had they not set a bad example, I would be free of this \$51 speeding ticket. Maybe I'll just take this "Safe Driving Course" and waive the fee.

Hmmmmmm. Safe Driving Course, eh? Why do I have to take a Safe Driving Course for going 12 mph over the speed limit and pro racers don't have to take a safe driving course after smashing into a concrete wall at 145 mph?

Are people trying to say these drivers are more skilled than I?

Probably.

But the Omaha Police had better watch out, because I'll be back on the streets in no time.

Catch me if you can.



Chuck gets stuck. UNO wrestler and student president/regent-elect Chuck Valgora finds himself in a tough situation at the UNO Open.

—ERIC FRANCIS

Wrestlers 'want to face best in nation'

BY DAVE DUFEK

The annual UNO Open wrestling tournament, hosted by the Maverick team Nov. 17, made some things clear for coach Mike Denney.

"We performed much better as a team than we did in the Northwest Missouri Open," Denney said. "It makes it real fun if your guys perform well."

No team scoring was kept, but 12 Maverick wrestlers placed in the top five in the weekend tournament.

Winning individual tournament championships for the Mavs were Scott Ruff (142-pound weight class), Jim Poe (220) and Scott Stogdill (167). Stogdill, in his freshman year of eligibility, had beaten the defending national champion in his weight class the week before.

"He (Stogdill) has really brought himself up a level," Denney said. "He's defeated the defending national champion."

"We felt when we recruited him that he had a lot of potential." The tournament drew 438 wrestlers from nine states.

"I think it (the UNO Open) was a real success," Denney said. "It took over a hundred volunteers. We wrestled over a thousand matches in a short time period. To do that in the amount of time we had was a real accomplishment."

Second-place finishers for the Mavericks included Dan Carriker (220), Pat Gentzler (190) and Antoine Beck (167).

Mavericks finishing in third place were Jessie Smith (167), Dan Radik (177) and Joe Wypiszewski (177). In fourth place were Jeff Sill (126) and Jeremy Montgomery (126). Marc Bauer added a fifth-place finish.

The tournament was divided into two "sub-tournaments" — one for those 17-20 years old and another for 21-and-older. According to Denney, the reason for the split is to give younger wrestlers a chance to get in more matches.

This week, the UNO team travels to the Northern Iowa Open. "The University of Iowa will be there and they are probably the best team in (National Collegiate Athletic Association) Division I," Denney said. "North Dakota State will also be there. They've all got top-rated wrestlers. At this point, we want to face the best in the nation."

Lady Mavs end season at 16-18

BY DAVE DUFEK

The UNO volleyball team ended its season at 16-18, following a loss to Northern Colorado in the North Central Conference (NCC) tournament Nov. 16 in Fargo, N.D.

Northern Colorado defeated the Lady Mavs 15-13, 15-12, 15-12 in the opening game of the tournament.

"It (the season) definitely didn't finish and or happen the way we wanted it to happen at all," Coach Rose Shires said. "The last few weeks we've seen improvement. We were definitely playing better at the end of the season than we were at the beginning."

The game put the Lady Mavs' NCC record at 4-6.

"We have to get back to the basics," Shires said. "We're going to work hard on what we feel has to happen on our team. And we're going to have to recruit big girls."

The Lady Mavs have been hurt by their lack of size on the court, according to Shires.

"We definitely were out-sized by everybody we played against," Shires said. "But the biggest problem we had was committing the errors."

"We scored more for the other teams than we did for ourselves. We just made a lot of mistakes."

This year marked the first season in eight years UNO has not been represented in the Regional playoffs of the NCAA Division II volleyball playoffs.

"That was extra disappointing for the girls," Shires said. "It was almost expected of us to go to regionals."

Northern Colorado, ranked seventh in the country in NCAA Division II, placed second in the NCC tournament. Northern Colorado, fourth-ranked North Dakota State and 12th-ranked Mankato State will represent the NCC in the NCAA Division II Regionals this season.

Although the season fell short in the expectations of some, Shires said, others were bright spots.

"I just got word that Brenda Baumann was named to the all-regional team," Shires said. "She was always very consistent in her play. We would go to her for a point or side-out anytime."

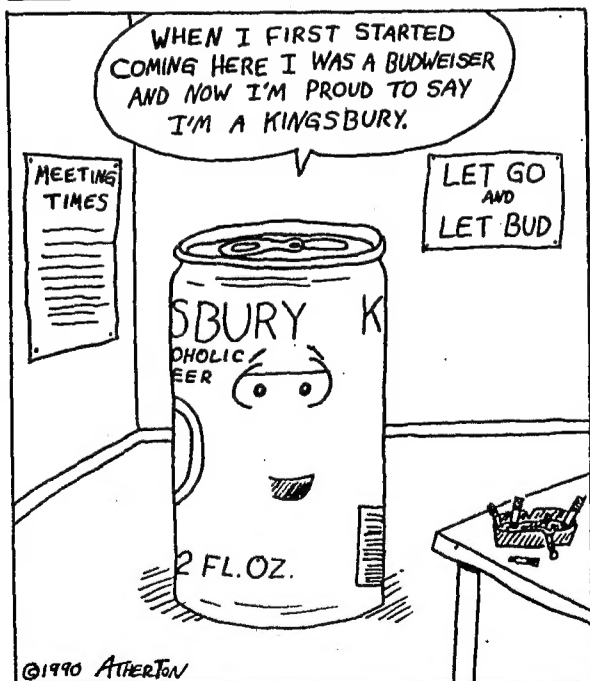
"Pam Lergen has also made tremendous improvements, and Karen Soukup became a very stable hitter for us."

Currently, preparations are underway for next season.

"It's definitely to the point where the girls want to roll their sleeves up and get back to work," Shires said. "We are making goals and objectives not only for this spring, but also next fall."

Off the wall

By Bob Atherton



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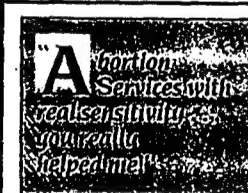
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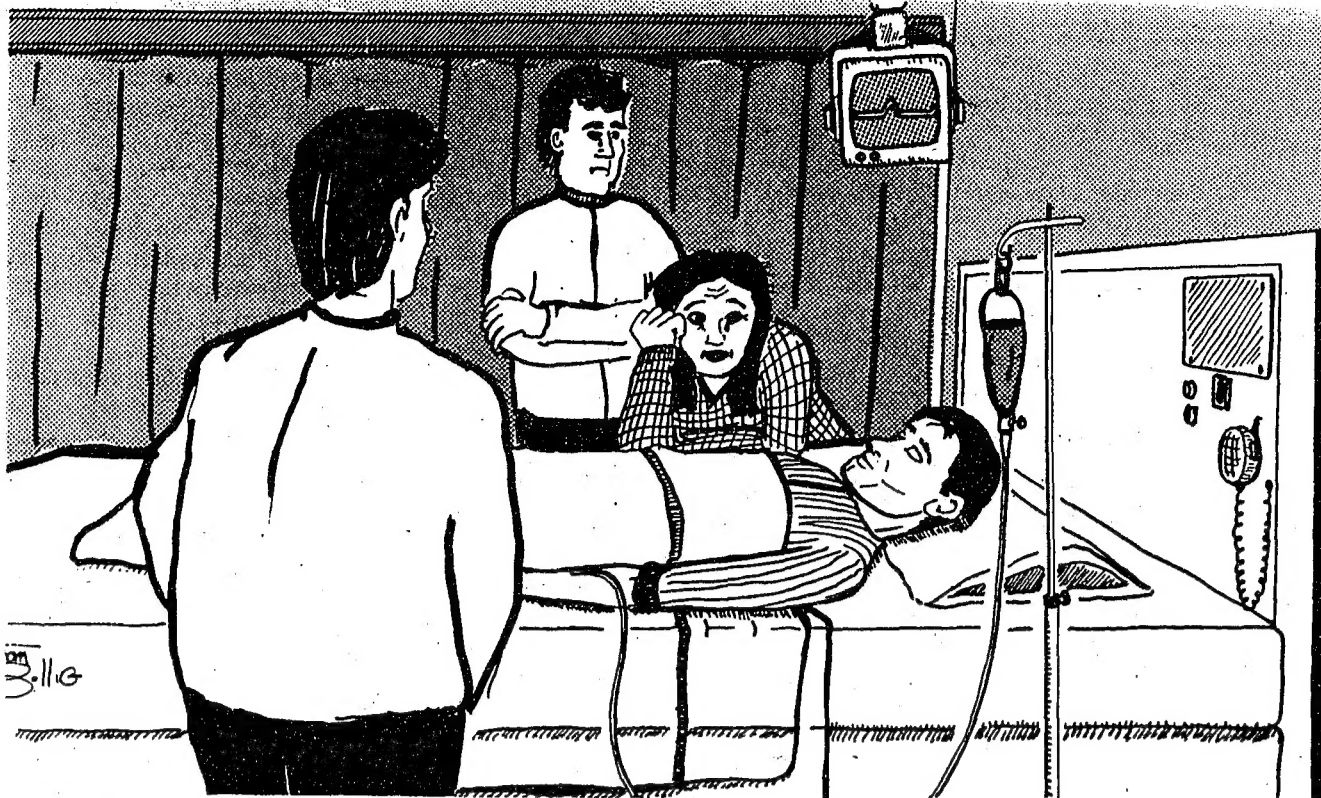
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The right to live and die

BY MIKE GETTER AND STACIE HAWKES

Mark left school early that day because he hated biology class and had to be at work at 5 p.m.

Although his apartment was only 10 minutes away, he never made it home.

At 22, Mark spent his entire life in South Omaha until that truck crossed the interstate median and gave him a new home: University Hospital, fourth floor.

After 10 years in his "new home," Mark is oblivious to his surroundings; since 1980, he has been in a coma which his doctors consider irreversible.

A decade of daily visits have passed for Mark's parents. Although they said they love their son, they also wish to end this ordeal. Mark's parents have spent four years in court, trying to legally remove Mark from his life-support system. They said Mark is struggling to die, and no one will let him make his choice.

Mark's parents said he would not want to continue his life this way.

While the courts cannot determine what Mark really wanted, they can determine the legal options for Mark's parents.

Although this is a fictional case, the dilemma plaguing Mark's parents is not. The right to die is being debated in courtrooms throughout the country.

The only way a court can recognize the wishes of a comatose patient is through a living will, said Rosemary Anton, a medical ethics professor at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Anton said a living will specifies the type of long-term medical care a patient wants to receive.

"It says things like, 'I don't want to be kept alive by artificial means,' and it calls for a dignified and humane death," Anton said.

She identified two main reasons for withholding or withdrawing from medical intervention or life-support: When one anticipates an imminent death, or when one is in a permanent state of unconsciousness.

More than 40 states, including Iowa and Missouri, legally recognize living wills. Nebraska, however, does not.

"In both Iowa and Missouri, the statutes only provide for a living will in the case of a terminally ill patient. They don't address a permanently comatose patient," Anton said.

All the statutes Anton is aware of grant the writers of living wills certain rights, she said. However, the statutes don't allow for the withholding of food and water, she said.

"More than anything, these statutes draw attention to living wills," she said. "They give people a sense of security. If they follow the rules, their living will should hold up."

In states where living wills are recognized, doctors are required to honor living wills or face legal penalties. In addition, doctors are not held legally responsible for "good-faith mistakes" that might occur while honoring a living will, Anton said.

In states like Nebraska that do not legally recognize living wills, people can still write them, she said. However, there simply isn't a law identifying the ramifications for doctors who do not follow the living will, Anton added.

"There is some legal pressure, even in Nebraska, that would force a doctor to follow a living will," Anton said.

A long-standing Nebraska law identifies a patient's right to refuse medical treatment, even if it is life-sustaining treatment, Anton said.

"And if I have that right, I'm also allowed to write it down."

Anton said a doctor who refuses to follow the wishes of his patient for no apparent reason could be sued for malpractice.

Patients have won lawsuits against their doctors when their wishes weren't carried out, she said.

"It's bad ethics to do to patients what they don't want done to them," Anton said.

Determining whether the decision to withhold treatment should be made from a medical or non-medical standpoint is a difficult question, she said. However, Anton said she thinks both viewpoints should be considered.

"There is a medical component, but there's also a whole value component. Sometimes the patients don't want to put up with the medical facts," Anton said. "Not all doctors and not all patients realize that the medical facts and judgements belong in the doctor's realm, but the rest of the judgements belong to the patient."

Sometimes doctors and patients crowd each other's territory, Anton said.

"Most doctors want involvement in their patients' decisions. They want to be assured that their patient knows what is included in their living will," Anton said.

Some people, she said, are concerned about a slippery slope affect, in which living wills are just a first step in judging the quality of people's lives.

"They feel that if we start to judge the quality of life in brain-dead people, we will then move on to the retarded and senile," Anton said.

The line is drawn at brain activity, she said.

Anton said problems occur when a patient's family isn't told of his wishes. Sometimes, family members who disagree with a living will can cast doubt on a patient's motives. She said it is important to discuss your wishes with those who are close to you.

"If I knew members of my family were opposed to my living will, I'd note it on the will," Anton said.

The notation, she said, strengthens the power of the will, telling those reading it that you are sure of your decision despite opposition.

Anton said it's not necessary to consult a lawyer about your living will unless you foresee a number of problems; however, lawyers can help with the legality of the will, especially if family members disagree with your wishes.

Living wills can either be written in letter form or written on a special form available from different organizations.

People concerned about the "right to die" issue should write a living will as soon as possible, Anton said.

It is never too early to make this life or death decision, she said.

Writing your own living will

- **Talk with your doctor.** Assure him you are informed on the issue, ask him questions, make sure a copy is put in your medical records.

- **Talk with your family.** Discuss your decision with your family and friends close to you. Note any family objections on the will. Tell your family where the living will is located.

- **Have the living will witnessed.** Have someone close to you witness your signature and have them sign it, too. Make sure the witness is someone who doesn't have a stake in your death.

- **State the conditions of your living will.** Clearly state the conditions in which you want the living will to be activated.

- **Review the will every five years.** Make sure the living will still states your current wishes. Date and sign it each time you review or update it.

Tips on writing your own living will are courtesy of Rosemary Anton, University of Nebraska Medical Center

Health Hints

Tips from the Medical Center

Alcohol, holidays can be a dangerous mix

For some, this holiday season will lead to alcohol abuse.

Over-indulgence is common even for moderate drinkers during this time of year, said Susan Smith, manager of the University of Nebraska Medical Center employee assistance program.

"It's not hard to understand why alcohol consumption increases over the holidays," Smith said. "The importance we place on being joyous and fulfilling age-old traditions makes the season potentially stressful for everyone."

Smith said alcohol abuse can be prompted by depression, in addition to stress.

"Also, because the holidays tend to intensify the loss of loved ones, many people experience depression as well as stress," she said.

Moderating alcohol use can reduce stress and depression, Smith said. She suggested the following options for preventing alcohol abuse:

- **Set realistic expectations.** Learn to forgive yourself or others if something doesn't get done.

- **Plan ahead.** The time spent with friends, family and work can reduce anxiety levels.

- **Give yourself some space.** Remember there are no hard and fast rules about how to celebrate the holidays. If you would rather be alone during the holidays, do so. On the other hand, if you are feeling especially festive, remember that others may not share your mood.

- **Take care of yourself.** Keeping yourself physically strong and active will reduce the perceived need for alcohol.

Smith said holiday parties can also be a potential problem for alcohol abuse. She offered the following suggestions for those who are planning holiday parties:

- **Always serve food.** If your party does not include a meal, offer cheese and crackers to combat the effects of alcohol. If guests are consuming alcoholic beverages on empty stomachs, even one drink can produce adverse effects.

- **Consider serving non-alcoholic beverages.** Try experimenting with fruit drink recipes. Use special glasses or garnishes. And, if you do serve alcohol, provide alternatives for those who don't drink.

- **Limit alcohol consumption.** Don't keep the alcohol flowing all evening. Plan a toast or a time when everyone enjoys a drink together. Make it easy for your guests to drink in moderation.

- **Arrange for designated drivers.** If a guest drinks too much, insist on calling a taxi or drive them home yourself. If transportation is not available, consider having your guests stay the night.

- **Take necessary precautions to prevent your guests from drinking too much.** This may mean limiting the amount of alcohol available to your guests or even how much you purchase. Remember, as a host or hostess, you are responsible for your guests.

Smith said following these simple rules for entertaining while attending or throwing a party can make this holiday season a happier and healthier one.

Health Hints compiled by Stacie Hawkes

war or peace: two views on the Gulf crisis



— DAVE BAVARESCO

One of the protesters at 24th and O Sunday. "One day it's no big deal, the next day we're on the verge of war," said Tim Alexander, co-director of Youth for Peace.

'They can't just go on forever. He will never pull out like this'

By DANIEL SHEPHERD

UNO student Kaveh Goudarzian is no stranger to Shi'ite Muslim oppression and war with Saddam Hussein.

Goudarzian, a native of Iran, left his homeland in 1985 because of religious persecution and his country's 5-year-old war with Iraq.

"I do have a negative attitude toward Iraq or the government of Iraq and Saddam," he said.

When Iraq attacked Iran in 1980, Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein claimed land that was not his, said Goudarzian, comparing the situation to Kuwait.

Although Saddam attacked Iran shortly after its revolution in the late 1970's, he was not successful, Goudarzian said.

"During the war, he (Saddam) lost a lot of money," Goudarzian said. "Iran spent a lot of money, but they didn't have to borrow from anyone else. Iraq owed to France and Kuwait. He owed a lot of money to other countries."

Goudarzian said Iraq's takeover of Kuwait could be very profitable for Saddam and Iraq.

"I don't think it has anything to do with Islam, with protecting the Arab Nation, or protecting the Arab economy," he said. "It's just his own self-interest."

Goudarzian said he thinks the U.S. military presence in the Middle East is necessary.

"If they pull out without doing anything or changing anything,

'This impending war is about oil'

By DANIEL SHEPHERD

The U.S. military is in the Middle East only because of power and money, according to Erich Christiansen, co-director of UNO Youth for Peace.

"Basically, the United States policy over the years has been geared toward making the United States the dominant world power," Christiansen said during an interview Saturday. "And it has gone to many lengths to do this."

Christiansen said the U.S. government has supported many dictatorial and aggressive governments. For example, during the Iran-Iraq War the U.S. government subsidized the Iraqi government.

"That's something being de-emphasized now, but the chemical weapons that the United States is complaining about them (the Iraqis) using now were sold to them by companies within the United States and their allies in Europe," he said.

Since Iraq decided to defy U.S. policy and invade Kuwait, the U.S. government has retaliated by ending its support of Iraq, Christiansen said.

"All of a sudden they're the bad guys, which leads us to the other way in which the United States enforces its will around the world — military intervention in areas that run contrary to its policies," he said.

Policies such as these show the U.S. government is not really concerned about national sovereignty of "Kuwait or anywhere else," Christiansen said.

"I think most people pretty well accept on one level or another that this impending war is about oil," he said.

Christiansen said the U.S. took a "neutral position" one week before the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait but then changed its position after the attack.

"Their response after the invasion was 'well, we didn't think they would take the whole country,'" Christiansen said.

"Our ambassador came back (from talks with Iraq before the attack) and basically viewed it as an Arab conflict and said, 'We would be even willing to give up a little of Kuwait,'" said Tim Alexander, the other co-director of Youth for Peace. "Our ambassador was surprised that Iraq took all of Kuwait."

"One minute it's no big deal, and the next minute we're on the verge of war," Alexander said.

In an organized effort to proclaim their opposition to U.S. involvement in the Middle East, Youth for Peace staged a protest Sunday at 24th and O Streets.

Christiansen and Alexander both said they thought the United Nations' sanctions are the better way to deal with the situation in the Middle East, but they both are cynical about the United States adherence to the UN sanctions.

"You see the United States championing the cause of international law, but it just seemed like yesterday that we trampled on international law in Panama," Alexander said, referring to the United States' December 1989 invasion of Panama.

Alexander said he feels like the U.S. military is provoking the Iraqis.

"We're sending war troops over there, and we're talking about war," Alexander said. "It's the United States and not the United Nations. We're going to paint ourselves in a corner, and it is going to be viewed as the U.S. versus this evil-Hitler-like Saddam Hussein."

they are going to lose their prestige," he said.

The U.S. military presence in the Middle East would not help world peace if there was no conflict, Goudarzian said, qualifying his previous statement.

"I think the United Nations could do a lot more," he said. Saddam should be stopped, said Goudarzian.

"I don't think any other Arab country right now has the power or the will to do what the United States is doing," he said.

However, Goudarzian said many Americans don't know enough about the situation to make appropriate comments.

"Just because he is an Arab Muslim leader and he's from the Middle East, we should stop him?" he said. "I think a lot of them don't know enough about the situation or enough about the motives and what the outcome might be if we stop him or if we don't stop him."

Goudarzian said his home country will not offer military support to Iraq.

"I think they (Iran) were helping them by providing them with medicine and food," he said. "Iran is not going to get involved. They're tired of fighting."

Saudi Arabia has military equipment but no war experience, said Goudarzian, adding that the Soviet Union will probably not become involved, also.

"Israel is busy," he said.

Although Goudarzian doesn't agree with the concept of war, he said he wants to see Saddam forced out of Kuwait and out of power.

"I hope the United States accomplishes what they are trying to accomplish — to move him back," Goudarzian said. "Move him out of Kuwait, maybe even out of power. I don't think anyone can guarantee he won't do it again even if he's pushed out of Kuwait."

But Goudarzian said Americans should not be too confident. "They don't know enough about the Iraqis," he said. "They (the Iraqis) have been fighting for eight years now. They have experience in fighting, and it's their region of the world."

But Goudarzian also said Americans should not take a defeatist attitude upon hearing of the troops suffering in the desert.

"A lot of people think we've never fought in the desert; we're going to lose out. Iraq has never fought in the desert either," Goudarzian said, adding that the terrain in Iraq and Iran has mountains and tundra but not desert.

Although he supports the United Nations' sanctions against Iraq, Goudarzian said, he thinks the only alternative is to move Saddam out of Kuwait with a military offense.

"There has to be a time limit to this," he said. "They just can't go on forever. He'll never pull out just like this."

But he said he really doesn't want the situation to escalate to war.

"I never fought the war of Iran, but I've seen things," said Goudarzian. "I've been exposed to scenes on TV, pictures, people, soldiers who came back. It's not a nice thing. It's very nasty."

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